

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Without prejudice or disclaimer, please amend claim 1 and add new claims 12-30 as follows, where changes are shown relative to the issued claims of 5,902,821, according to 37 CFR § 1.173(b)(2):

1. (Amended) A method of decreasing mortality caused by congestive heart failure in a patient in need of such decrease, said method comprising:

administering to said patient first dosages at least daily for a period of from 7 to 28

days, said first dosages each comprising carvedilol,

then administering to said patient second dosages at least daily for a period of from

7 to 28 days, said second dosages each containing carvedilol, and

then administering to said patient third dosages daily for a maintenance period to

decrease a risk of mortality caused by congestive heart failure, said third

dosages each comprising carvedilol, said maintenance period is greater than six

months, and said third dosages each comprising a daily maintenance dose in the

range of from about 10 mg to about 100 mg of carvedilol,

said first dosages each comprising carvedilol in an amount which is 10-30% of said

daily maintenance dose,

said second dosages each comprising carvedilol in an amount which is 20-70% of

said daily maintenance dose.

12. (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein the daily maintenance dose and the maintenance period have been shown to statistically decrease the risk of mortality caused by congestive heart failure.

13. (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein said patient has class II-IV congestive heart failure.

14. (New) A method according to claim 7, wherein the maintenance third dosages are administered to decrease a risk of mortality caused by congestive heart failure, and for a maintenance period of greater than six months.

15. (New) A method according to claim 14, wherein the maintenance third dosages and the maintenance period have been shown to statistically decrease the risk of mortality caused by congestive heart failure.

16. (New) A method according to claim 7, wherein said patient has class II-IV congestive heart failure.

17. (New) A method according to claim 10, wherein the third dosages are administered to decrease a risk of mortality caused by congestive heart failure, and the maintenance period is greater than six months.

18. (New) A method according to claim 17, wherein the third dosages and the maintenance period have been shown to statistically decrease the risk of mortality caused by congestive heart failure.

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19. (New) A method according to claim 10, wherein said patient has class II-IV congestive heart failure.

20. (New) A method of decreasing mortality caused by congestive heart failure in a patient, said method comprising administering to said patient first dosages once or twice daily, for a period of from 7 to 28 days, said first dosages each comprising carvedilol in an amount of about 3.125 mg,

then administering to said patient second dosages once or twice daily, for a period of from 7 to 28 days, said second dosages each comprising carvedilol in an amount of about 12.5 mg, and

then administering to said patient maintenance third dosages once or twice daily, said third dosages each comprising carvedilol in an amount of about 25.0 mg or about 50.0 mg.

21. (New) A method as recited in claim 20, further comprising, after administering the first dosages and before administering the second dosages, administering to said patient intermediate dosages once or twice daily, for a period of from 7 to 28 days, said intermediate dosages each comprising carvedilol in an amount of about 6.25 mg.

22. (New) A method according to claim 20, wherein the maintenance third dosages are administered to decrease a risk of mortality caused by congestive heart failure, and for a maintenance period of greater than six months.

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23. (New) A method according to claim 22, wherein the maintenance third dosages and the maintenance period have been shown to statistically decrease the risk of mortality caused by congestive heart failure.

24. (New) A method according to claim 20, wherein said patient has class II-IV congestive heart failure.

25. (New) A method as recited in claim 20, wherein at least one of said first, second and maintenance dosages further comprises at least one other therapeutic agent selected from the group consisting of an angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor, a diuretic and a cardiac glycoside.

26. (New) A method of treating congestive heart failure in a patient in need of such treatment, said method comprising:

administering to said patient first dosages at least daily for a period of from 7 to 28 days, said first dosages each comprising carvedilol,
then administering to said patient second dosages at least daily for a period of from 7 to 28 days, said second dosages each comprising carvedilol, and
then administering to said patient third dosages daily for a maintenance period to decrease a risk of mortality caused by congestive heart failure, said third dosages each comprising carvedilol, said maintenance period is greater than six months, and said third dosages each comprising a daily maintenance dose in the range of from about 10 mg to about 100 mg of carvedilol,

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said first dosages each comprising carvedilol in an amount which is 10-30% of said daily maintenance dose,
said second dosages each comprising carvedilol in an amount which is 20-70% of said daily maintenance dose.

27. (New) A method according to claim 26, wherein the third dosages are administered to decrease a risk of mortality caused by congestive heart failure, and the maintenance period is greater than six months.

28. (New) A method according to claim 27, wherein the third dosages and the maintenance period have been shown to statistically decrease the risk of mortality caused by congestive heart failure.

29. (New) A method according to claim 26, wherein said patient has class II-IV congestive heart failure.

30. (New) Method of claim 26, wherein carvedilol is administered to the patient once or twice daily.

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